

There is further disclosed herein a keyboard or keypad including at least three rows of keys including a top row which is remote from a user, a middle row, and a bottom row which is adjacent the user, each row having at least three keys including a left and a right end key, each key having an upper finger engaged surface of generally square or rectangular configuration so as to have top and bottom edge portions extending generally parallel to the rows, and left and right edge portions extending generally normal to the rows, and wherein the keys include:

- (i) a ridge on the top left end key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,
- (ii) a ridge on the top left end key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,
- (iii) a ridge on the bottom left end key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,
- (iv) a ridge on the bottom left end key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,
- (v) a ridge on the bottom right end key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,
- (vi) a ridge on the bottom right end key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,
- (vii) a ridge on the top right end key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows, and
- (viii) a ridge on the top right end key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows.

There is still further disclosed herein a Qwerty keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys arranged in three linear rows including a top row which is remote from a user, a middle row, and a bottom row which is adjacent the user, each row having a left and a right end key, each key having an upper finger engaged surface of generally square or rectangular configuration so as to have top and bottom edge portions extending generally parallel to the rows, and left and right side edge portions extending generally normal to the rows, the keys being positioned in a left first set and a right second set, the

first set including the three left end keys and at least the next two adjacent keys of each row, the second set including the three right end keys and the next adjacent two or three keys spaced toward the first set so that the two sets are spaced by two, three or four keys, and wherein the keys of said first set include:

(i) a ridge on the top left end key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(ii) a ridge on the top left end key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

10 (iii) a ridge on the middle left end key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(iv) a ridge on the bottom left end key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(v) a ridge on the bottom left end key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

15 (vi) a ridge on the next adjacent or next two adjacent keys to said bottom left end key of the bottom row adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

A 4 D 17 (vii) ~~ridge on the next adjacent bottom key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,~~

20 (viii) a ridge on said last mentioned key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(ix) a ridge on the middle key next adjacent to said last mentioned key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

25 (x) a ridge on the top key next adjacent said last mentioned key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(xi) a ridge on said last mentioned key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(xiii) a ridge on the or each top key between said last mentioned key and said top left end key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows, and

the keys of said second set include:

(i) a ridge on the top right end key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(ii) a ridge on the top right end key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(iii) a ridge on the middle key adjacent said top right key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(iv) a ridge on the bottom right end key adjacent the right edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(v) a ridge on the bottom right end key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(vi) a ridge on the next adjacent or next two adjacent keys to said bottom right end key of the bottom row adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(vii) a ridge on the next adjacent bottom key adjacent the bottom edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(viii) a ridge on said last mentioned key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(ix) a ridge on the middle key next adjacent to said last mentioned key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(x) a ridge on the top key next adjacent said last mentioned key adjacent the left edge portion thereof extending generally normal to the rows,

(xi) a ridge on said last mentioned key adjacent the top edge portion thereof extending generally parallel to the rows,

(xii) a ridge on the or each top key between said last mentioned key and said top right end key adjacent the top edge portion thereto extending generally parallel to the rows.

Brief Description of the Drawings

A preferred form of the present invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a typical standard QWERTY keyboard.

Fig. 2A through 2H are schematic diagrams showing how certain keys of the QWERTY keyboard are modified in order to provide a positive feedback according to the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of an improved QWERTY keyboard made in accordance with the present invention.

Description of an Embodiment of the Preferred Invention

The improved keyboard is the result of specific modifications to an original standard keyboard. This original keyboard 10 is in common use, and an example is illustrated in FIG. 1. For clarity, the generally accepted geometrical design of the standard keyboard will first be described in order to provide a foundation for understanding the geometry of the improved keyboard. However, while the modifications of the present invention are most likely to be applied to the standard keyboard, it must be noted that these same modifications may be applied to many other keyboard designs as well.

~~A 5~~ The keys of the standard keyboard 10 are generally identical in shape and size except for the outer function and modifier keys which are usually horizontally elongated in order to give the complete standard keyboard a generally rectangular appearance. A normal key includes an upper finger engaging surface 2 of a generally square or rectangular configuration having a top edge portion 3 remote from a user, a bottom edge portion 4 adjacent a user, a left edge portion 5 and a right edge portion 6. A ridge 22 is located on at least one of the edges.